

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1           1. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether a client ac-  
2       cepts visitor identifiers, comprising the steps of:
  - 3           a.) receiving a request for a resource, the request originating at a  
4                client;
  - 5           b.) determining whether the request for the resource includes a visi-  
6                tor identifier;
  - 7           c.) responsive to the request including a visitor identifier:  
8                obtaining data associated with the visitor identifier;  
9                determining that the client accepts visitor identifiers; and  
10              transmitting the requested resource to the client;
  - 11          d.) responsive to the request not including a visitor identifier and  
12              responsive to the request not including an indicator that re-  
13              direction has occurred:  
14              assigning a new visitor identifier;  
15              sending a redirection request with the new visitor identifier  
16                      to the client, the redirection request including an indi-  
17                      cator that redirection has occurred;

18 responsive to the client storing the new visitor identifier, de-  
19 termining that the client accepts visitor identifiers;  
20 responsive to the client not storing the new visitor identifier,  
21 determining that the client does not accept visitor  
22 identifiers; and  
23 transmitting the requested resource to the client.

1 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the visitor iden-  
2 tifier comprises a cookie.

1 3. (Previously presented) A method for determining whether a requestor  
2 accepts visitor identifiers, comprising the steps of:  
3 a.) receiving a request for a resource from a requestor, the requestor  
4 having an address;  
5 b.) determining whether the request includes a visitor identifier;  
6 c.) responsive to the request including a visitor identifier:  
7 c.1) obtaining data associated with the visitor identifier;  
8 c.2) determining that the requestor accepts visitor identifiers;  
9 and  
10 c.3) transmitting the requested resource to the requestor; and  
11 d.) responsive to the request not including a visitor identifier:

12 d.1) determining whether the request includes an indicator  
13 that step d.3) has been performed;  
14 d.2) responsive to the request including the indicator that  
15 step d.3) has been performed:  
16 assigning a visitor identifier from the requestor's ad-  
17 dress;  
18 determining that the requestor does not accept visitor  
19 identifiers; and  
20 transmitting the requested resource to the requestor;  
21 and  
22 d.3) responsive to the request not including the indicator  
23 that step d.3) has been performed:  
24 assigning a new visitor identifier;  
25 sending to the requestor a redirection request includ-  
26 ing the new visitor identifier and an indicator  
27 that step d.3) has been performed, the redirec-  
28 tion request being adapted to cause the re-  
29 questor to retransmit the request for the re-  
30 source; and  
31 repeating steps a-d.

1           4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the visitor iden-  
2   tifier comprises a cookie.

1           5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein determining  
2   whether the request for the resource includes a visitor identifier comprises:  
3                 comparing the visitor identifier with a range of valid visitor identi-  
4                         fiers; and,  
5                 in response to the visitor identifier being outside the range of valid  
6                         visitor identifiers, indicating that the request did not include  
7                         the visitor identifier.

1           6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the visitor iden-  
2   tifier comprises a cookie.

1           7. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 3, further comprising:  
2                 d e.) categorizing data sent with the request for the resource by at  
3                         least one selected from the group consisting of a visitor iden-  
4                         tifier, a page identifier, and a time stamp.

1           8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the visitor iden-  
2   tifier comprises a cookie.

1           9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 or claim 2, further com-  
2   prising:

3                 repeating steps a-d for a predetermined amount of time.

1           10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 or claim 2, further com-  
2   prising:

3                 repeating steps a-d until receiving a particular request for a re-  
4                         source.

1           11. (Previously presented) A data collection server for determining  
2   whether a requestor accepts visitor identifiers, comprising:

3                 a communication interface for receiving a request for a resource  
4                         from a requestor and sending a visitor identifier;

5                 a cookie handler coupled to the communications interface for per-  
6                         forming the steps of:

7                         a) determining whether the request includes a visitor identi-  
8                                 fier;

9                         b) responsive to the request including a visitor identifier:

10                                 b.1) obtaining data associated with the visitor identi-  
11   fier;

12 b.2) determining that the requestor accepts visitor  
13 identifiers; and  
14 b.3) causing the communication interface to transmit  
15 the requested resource to the requestor;  
16 c) responsive to the request not including a visitor identifier:  
17 c.1) determining whether the request includes an in-  
18 dicator that step c.3) has been performed;  
19 c.2) responsive to the request including the indicator  
20 that step c.3) has been performed:  
21 assigning a visitor identifier;  
22 determining that the requestor does not accept  
23 visitor identifiers; and  
24 causing the communication interface to trans-  
25 mit the requested resource to the re-  
26 questor;  
27 c.3) responsive to the request not including the indica-  
28 tor that step c.3) has been performed:  
29 assigning a new visitor identifier;  
30 causing the communication interface to send to  
31 the requestor a redirection request in-  
32 cluding the new visitor identifier and an

33 indicator that step c.3) has been per-  
34 formed, the redirection request being  
35 adapted to cause the requestor to re-  
36 transmit the request for the resource;  
37 and  
38 a session controller coupled to the cookie handler for signaling a  
39 session end for a particular visitor identifier; and  
40 a repository for:  
41 storing data sent with the request for the resource;  
42 responsive to the request including a visitor identifier, stor-  
43 ing data associated with the visitor.

1 12. (Previously presented) The data collection server of claim 11, wherein  
2 the visitor identifier comprises a cookie.

1 13 to 17. (Canceled).

1 18. (Currently amended) A computer program product having computer  
2 readable code embodied thereon , said computer readable code for programming  
3 one or more computers to perform a method for determining whether a client  
4 accepts visitor identifiers, comprising the steps of:

5 a.) receiving a request for a resource, the request originating at a  
6 client;  
7 b.) determining whether the request for the resource includes a visi-  
8 tor identifier;  
9 c.) responsive to the request including a visitor identifier:  
10 obtaining data associated with the visitor identifier;  
11 determining that the client accepts visitor identifiers; and  
12 transmitting the requested resource to the client;  
13 d.) responsive to the request not including the visitor identifier and  
14 responsive to the request not including an indicator that re-  
15 direction has occurred:  
16 assigning a new visitor identifier;  
17 sending a redirection request with the new visitor identifier  
18 to the client, the redirection request including an indi-  
19 cator that redirection has occurred;  
20 responsive to the client storing the new visitor identifier, de-  
21 termining that the client accepts visitor identifiers;  
22 responsive to the client not storing the new visitor identifier,  
23 determining that the client does not accept visitor  
24 identifiers; and  
25 transmitting the requested resource to the client.



1           19. (Previously presented) A computer program product having computer  
2 readable code embodied thereon, said computer readable code for programming  
3 one or more computers to perform a method for determining whether a re-  
4 questor accepts visitor identifiers, comprising the steps of:

5           a.) receiving a request for a resource from a requestor, the requestor  
6           having an address;

7           b.) determining whether the request includes a visitor identifier;

8           c.) responsive to the request including a visitor identifier:

9           c.1) obtaining data associated with the visitor identifier;

10           c.2) determining that the requestor accepts visitor identifiers;

11           and

12           c.3) transmitting the requested resource to the requestor; and

13           d.) responsive to the request not including a visitor identifier:

14           d.1) determining whether the request includes an indicator  
15           that step d.3) has been performed;

16           d.2) responsive to the request including the indicator that  
17           step d.3) has been performed:

18           assigning a visitor identifier from the requestor's ad-  
19           dress;

20 determining that the requestor does not accept visitor  
21 identifiers; and  
22 transmitting the requested resource to the requestor;  
23 and  
24 d.3) responsive to the request not including the indicator  
25 that step d.3) has been performed:  
26 assigning a new visitor identifier;  
27 sending to the requestor a redirection request includ-  
28 ing the new visitor identifier and an indicator  
29 that step d.3) has been performed, the redirec-  
30 tion request being adapted to cause the re-  
31 questor to retransmit the request for the re-  
32 source; and  
33 repeating steps a-d.

1 20. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 19,  
2 wherein the visitor identifier comprises a cookie.

1 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the received  
2 request identifies a resource, and the redirection request identifies the resource  
3 identified by the received request.

1           22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the received  
2 request identifies an address, and the redirection request identifies the address  
3 identified by the received request.

1           23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein sending a redi-  
2 rection request comprises sending a redirection request including an indicator  
3 that step c) has been performed.

1           24. (Canceled).

1           25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the received  
2 request identifies a resource, and the redirection request identifies the resource  
3 identified by the received request.

1           26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the received  
2 request identifies an address, and the redirection request identifies the address  
3 identified by the received request.

1           27 to 29. (Canceled).

1           30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                 repeating steps a-d until reaching a session expiration.

1           31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
2                 repeating steps a-d until reaching a session expiration.